

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended). A method for treating a patient, to decrease the likelihood of developing or the progression of Alzheimer's disease comprising administering to the individual in need thereof, an effective amount of an inhibitor of memapsin 2 having an a K_i of less than or equal to 10^{-7} M or which binds to crystallized enzyme characterized by the parameters in Table 2 when bound to OM-99-2 (SEQ ID NO. 28).

2 (original). The method of Claim 1 wherein the inhibitor is administered orally.

3 (currently amended). The method of Claim 1 wherein the inhibitor blocks cleavage of APP β -amyloid precursor protein (APP).

4 (currently amended). The method of Claim 1 wherein the inhibitor of memapsin 2 which binds to the crystallized enzyme characterized by the parameters in Table 2 when bound to OM-99-2 (SEQ ID NO. 28), is modeled using a computer program passed on the crystallization coordinates three dimensional structure coordinates of memapsin 2.

5 (currently amended). The method of Claim 1 wherein the inhibitor of memapsin 2 which binds to the crystallized enzyme characterized by the parameters in Table 2 when bound to OM-99-2 (SEQ ID NO. 28), is modeled using a computer program based on the parameters for memapsin shown in Table 2.

6 (currently amended). The method of Claim 1 comprising creating a data base of data obtained by modeling more than one inhibitor of memapsin 2 which binds to the crystallized enzyme characterized by the parameters in Table 2 when bound to OM-99-2 (SEQ ID NO. 28), based on the crystallization coordinates three dimensional structure coordinates of memapsin-2 or parameters of Table 2.